

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 /016 W
-----051215 180100Z /73
R 180011Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5371

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 WELLINGTON 01956

EA/ANP FOR MR. HURWITZ

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASIG
SUBJECT: RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF OCTOBER 1977
- INSPECTION

1. THE EMBASSY IS PLEASED AND APPRECIATIVE OF THE
WORK DONE BY THE INSPECTION TEAM THAT VISITED NEW ZEALAND
IN OCTOBER 1977. IN THE MAIN, THE COMMENTS MADE IN
THE INSPECTION MEMORANDA AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE
THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE EMBASSY. OUR RESPONSE TO THE
RECOMMENDATIONS (PARA 2 BELOW) SHOULD, HOWEVER, BE
READ IN THE LIGHT OF THE FOLLOWING:

(A) WHILE RECOMMENDATION 5.2-1 IS ADDRESSED TO THE
- DEPARTMENT FOR REPLY, THE EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO
- NOTE NOW THAT IF THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD INSTITUTE
- A TEN-DAY TRANSIT WITHOUT VISA POLICY, THE QUESTION
- OF WHETHER OR NOT THE CONSULAR SECTION COULD
- REDUCE ITS LOCAL STAFF BY ONE WOULD NEED STUDY
- IN THE LIGHT OF THE FACTORS PERTAINING AT THAT
- TIME. ONE NEW FACTOR WHICH HAS ALREADY ARISEN
- SINCE THE INSPECTION, AND WHICH HAS RESULTED IN AN
- INCREASE IN NIV'S ISSUED, IS THE SHARP DROP IN
- AIR FARES BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND THE U.S.
- THEREFORE, THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT THERE SHOULD
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- BE NO AUTOMATIC RPT AUTOMATIC STAFF REDUCTION AS
- A RESULT OF A MORE LIBERAL TWOV POLICY, AS THIS
- RECOMMENDATION SUGGESTS.

(B) WITH REFERENCE TO SECTION 4.2, THE EMBASSY QUESTIONS
- SOME OF THE INSPECTORS' CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING
- COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES HERE. BECAUSE THE

- INSPECTORS' RECOMMENDATIONS ARE BASED ON THESE
- CONCLUSIONS, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD BE
- USEFUL IN THIS CONTEXT TO NOTE THAT THE COMMERCIAL PROGRAM HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE ONE AND WILL BE INCREASINGLY SO IN THE FUTURE. THE EMBASSY IS SUBMITTING A MEMORANDUM TO S/IG AND EA/ANP ON OUR COMMERCIAL ACTION PROGRAM.

2. THE FOLLOWING RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO THE INSPECTORS' RECOMMENDATIONS:

4.2-1 THE NEXT COMMERCIAL ACTION PROGRAM WILL BE BASED

- ON SPECIFIC MARKET RESEARCH WHICH IS ALREADY
- SCHEDULED OR UNDERWAY IN THE AREAS OF HEALTH
- CARE EQUIPMENT, BUSINESS MACHINES, COMPUTERS,
- FISHING AND FISH PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, FORESTRY
- AND TIMBER INDUSTRY EQUIPMENT, TELECOMMUNICATIONS
- EQUIPMENT, LABORATORY INSTRUMENTATION, INDUSTRIAL
- PROCESS CONTROL EQUIPMENT, ETC.

4.2-3 THIS RECOMMENDATION IS BASED ON AN APPRECIATION

- OF THE COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS IN WELLINGTON (AS
- DETAILED IN THE INSPECTION MEMORANDUM) WITH
- WHICH THE EMBASSY D ,95 3,5843)6 -&433.
- NOR DOES THE EMBASSY SEE A DIRECT RELATIONSHIP
- BETWEEN THE RESULTS OF A SINGLE MARKET STUDY AND

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- THE ELIMINATION OR RETENTION OF ONE LOCAL
- POSITION. IN ANY EVENT, THE MARKET STUDY IN
- PROGRESS AT THE TIME OF THE INSPECTION REVEALED
- THAT THREE OF THE FOUR PRODUCT LINES SHOWED
- VERY GOOD POTENTIAL FOR U.S. EXPORTERS. AS A
- RESULT OF THAT STUDY, THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
- AGREED THAT A MAJOR TRADE SHOW IN JULY 1978 WAS
- WARRANTED. THEREFORE, THUS FAR THE EMBASSY HAS
- NO INDICATION THAT A REDUCTION IN STAFF IS
- MERITED, BUT AS STATED IN 4.2-1 ABOVE, A WIDE
- RANGE OF MARKET RESEARCH REMAINS TO BE DONE.

7.1-12 EMBASSY CANBERRA INFORMS US THAT THIS

- RECOMMENDATION DOES NOT PERTAIN TO WELLINGTON.
- 7.1-10 CONCERNS THE TRANSFER OF ONE ATS CIRCUIT
- FROM CANBERRA TO WELLINGTON, BUT AGAIN,
- ACCORDING TO CANBERRA, A/OC HAS ACTION, NOT
- WELLINGTON. THE EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE THE
- CANBERRA INSPECTION REPORT, AND IF ANY
- RECOMMENDATION IN IT REQUIRES OUR ACTION,
- PLEASE CABLE TEXT SOONEST.

7.2-2 AS SOON AS THE EMBASSY HAS CONDUCTED AND COM-

- PLETED A STUDY ON THIS SUBJECT, AND IF THE
- RESULTS OF THE STUDY SO WARRANT, A/ALS AND A/OS
- WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE AN ALLOWANCE FOR PRIVATE
- SCHOOL EDUCATION IN WELLINGTON.

7.2-4 MONTHLY AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT USAGE REPORTS

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- FOR EACH VEHICLE ARE NOW BEING PREPARED.

7.2-5 A GREAT DEAL OF WORK HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE TO PUT

- THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED PROPERTIES AND GROUNDS IN
- FIRST-CLASS CONDITION, AND THE EMBASSY IS
- CURRENTLY SURVEYING ALL PROPERTIES TO ASCERTAIN
- LONG-TERM REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING THEM IN
- FIRST-CLASS CONDITION. AS THE SURVEYS ARE
- COMPLETED, REQUIREMENTS WILL BE INCLUDED IN
- OUR FY79 AND FY80 FBO PROJECTIONS.

7.2-6 ON FEBRUARY 21, THE EMBASSY ISSUED A NEW

- INSTRUCTION ON "POST POLICY REGARDING U.S.
- GOVERNMENT QUARTERS." AS PART OF THAT POLICY,
- THE EMBASSY WILL MAKE USE OF LONGER-TERM LEASES
- FOR RESIDENCES FOR EMPLOYEES.

7.2-7 ON FEBRUARY 14, THE EMBASSY ISSUED AN INSTRUCTION

- REQUIRING THAT ALL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR
- REQUESTS BE MADE IN WRITING.

7.2-8 THE REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER IN CANBERRA CON-

- DUCTED A SECURITY SURVEY OF THE EMBASSY IN
- JANUARY 1978.

7.2-9 THE EMBASSY IS UPDATING ITS E&E PLAN, AND

- EXPECTS TO HAVE IT COMPLETED BY JULY 1978.

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9.5-5 THE EMBASSY'S PROJECT SUPERVISOR AND ITS GENERAL

- SERVICES OFFICER VISITED AUCKLAND ON NOVEMBER
- 1, 1977. A CONSTRUCTION COMPANY WAS ENGAGED AT
- THAT TIME TO REPORT ON THE STRUCTURAL
- DEFICIENCIES OF THE CONSUL GENERAL'S RESIDENCE
- IT HAS SINCE REPORTED THAT THERE ARE NO
- STRUCTURAL DEFICIENCIES IN THE HOUSE AND THE
- ONLY MAJOR DEFECT ON THE RESIDENCE PROPERTY IS
- A BOUNDARY WALL THAT SHOULD BE REPLACED. THE
- GENERAL SERVICES OFFICER VISITED AUCKLAND AGAIN
- IN APRIL 1978, AND THE COMPANY HAS PROMISED
- TO SUBMIT AN ESTIMATE FOR THE NECESSARY WORK
- WITHIN TWO WEEKS. AS SOON AS THE ESTIMATE IS
- RECEIVED, THE EMBASSY WILL TAKE THE NECESSARY
- CORRECTIVE ACTION.

9.6-1 THE EMBASSY HAS INSTRUCTED THE CONSULAR AGENT IN

- CHRISTCHURCH (BY LETTER DATED APRIL 13, 1978) TO
- ENSURE THAT ALL MATTERS BEYOND HIS OR HIS
- STAFF'S ABILITY TO DETERMINE CORRECT ACTION SHOULD
- BE REFERRED TO THE EMBASSY.

9.6-2 THE CONSULAR AGENT WILL GIVE THE EMBASSY AMPLE

- ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF HIS PLANS TO RETIRE.
- AT THE MOMENT, HE PLANS TO RETIRE FROM HIS
- ACCOUNTANCY BUSINESS IN 1979, BUT IS CONSIDERING
- CONTINUING AS CONSULAR AGENT FOR AN INDEFINITE
- PERIOD BEYOND THAT TIME.

9.8-1 THE DEFENSE ATTACHE VISITED APIA IN MARCH 1978,

- AND DELIVERED TO THE CONSULAR AGENT AT THAT TIME
- A SECURITY-APPROVED LOCK. UPON INVESTIGATION,
- THE CONSULAR AGENT DISCOVERED THAT BAR-LOCK

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- CABINETS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN APIA. SINCE COSTS
- FOR COMMERCIAL DELIVERY OF A CABINET TO APIA
- WOULD BE VERY HIGH, THE EMBASSY IS NOW EXPLORING
- THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING A CABINET DELIVERED
- THERE AT THE TIME OF THE NEXT U.S. NAVAL SHIP
- VISIT. SELDEN

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